

THE

January, 2023

G.O.A.T.

Goings On At Tollgate



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension



JOIN US FOR THE 2023
MSU TOLLGATE FARM MAPLEFEST!
MARCH 11 & 12



Explore Michigan's sweetest winter crop, maple syrup!

Identify and tap a maple tree, tour the sugar shack, explore fun maple-themed activities, take a wagon ride, taste maple sap, syrup, and sugar, and explore maple tools and technology. Enjoy a pancake celebration in the historic 19th-century barn. Pancakes, sausage, coffee, cocoa, and of course, real maple syrup will be provided!

Pre-registration is required. Registration is nonrefundable.

Hourly time slots from 9 am – 1 pm Saturday and Sunday

Adults: \$18 Children 3-10: \$12

Children 2 and under free (you do not need to register this age group)

**[CLICK HERE](#) TO REGISTER OUR
LEARN ABOUT VOLUNTEERING!**

Michigan State University Extension Tollgate Farm and Education Center

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23

MSU TOLLGATE FARM SUMMER CAMP



MSU Tollgate Farm Camp invites you to its 2023 season - registration OPEN NOW!

Whether it's our Summer Farm Camp (June 26th - August 18th) or Wild Winter and S.T.E.A.M. Break Camps (February 20th - 21st and March 27th - 31st), there's something for everyone! Follow the links below to register, or read more in our attached 2023 catalog and on the [camp website](#).

Follow these links to register:

[Farm Summer Camp](#) (Ages 4-12)

[Horse Camp](#) (Ages 9-14)

[Wild Winter Break Camp](#) (Ages 6-12)

[S.T.E.A.M. Break Camp](#) (Ages 6-12)

MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers Recognition Dinner

The Tollgate Garden Volunteers (TGVs) gathered for the first Recognition Dinner since 2019 on Saturday, November 5, to celebrate all the accomplishments of the past year. Tollgate Farm Manager, Roy Prentice, presented Tollgate's journey in a wonderful look back in pictures. As part of the presentation, two annual TGV awards were announced. **Congratulations to the winners!!**



Ginger Meyer Award – Mary Bohner

(Nursery, PAR Garden, and twenty years of volunteer service to the farm)

The Ginger Meyer Award is given annually to recognize the Tollgate Garden Volunteer who shares some of the treasured qualities of Ginger Meyer (one of the owners of Tollgate Farm from 1951 until it was donated to MSU in 1987). The volunteer chosen shows a commitment to Tollgate, a love and

knowledge of gardening and a willingness to share that knowledge with others.

Golden Shovel Award – Jacob Di Ponio

(PAR Garden)

The Golden Shovel Award is presented to the first-year Tollgate Garden Volunteer who registers the most volunteer hours on the site.



A special certificate of appreciation and Golden State Warrior jersey awarded to Tollgate garden volunteer president, Renee Cottrell. Both the certificate and jersey were signed by former Spartan basketball star and current Golden State Warrior, Draymond Green.

To read the entire Tollgate Farm Newsletter - [**CLICK HERE**](#)

Come Join the Team

Do you love learning alongside kids and adults in the outdoors? Are you passionate about experiential learning?
Do you have a flexible schedule with programs.

MSU Tollgate Farm is currently hiring part time on call educational leaders for our school and community programs. Come help us meet our mission! Training provided.

Questions? Email [**kochle43@msu.edu**](mailto:kochle43@msu.edu)

To learn more or apply:
[**Click Here**](#)



TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM AT MSU TOLLGATE FARM

WHAT DO TEENS AND PARENTS SAY ABOUT THE MSU TOLLGATE FARM STEWARDS TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM?

“I MOST LOOK FORWARD TO SPENDING TIME WITH THE KIDS AND MAKING SURE THEY HAVE AN ENJOYABLE CAMP EXPERIENCE BECAUSE I REMEMBER HOW MUCH I LOVED TOLLGATE WHEN I WAS A CAMPER!”

“I AM SURE YOU’VE HEARD THIS COUNTLESS TIMES ALREADY, BUT L. ABSOLUTELY LOVES TOLLGATE AND THE TOLLGATE EXPERIENCE. YOU HAVE NO IDEA! SHE HAS BEEN BUZZING AND GIDDY ABOUT NEXT WEEK FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS.”

“I HAVE TO TELL YOU T. IS LOVING IT! SHE WISHES SHE DID MORE THAN ONE WEEK :-)
SHE WILL BE BACK NEXT SUMMER FOR SURE!”

“J. HAS HAD ONE SUMMER AS SIT AND WENT TO CAMP HERSELF MANY TIMES. SHE HAD A REALLY GREAT EXPERIENCE AND LOVED IT!”



Teens ages 13-19 are invited to join the camp leadership team this summer. Gain skills, build resiliency, earn community service hours.

[Click Here to Apply.](#)

Michigan State University Extension
Tollgate Farm and Education Center
AND THE NOVI COMMUNITY COALITION

FOREST THERAPY

Winter Series

Forest Therapy, also known as Forest Bathing or *Shinrin Yoku*, originated in Japan and is the practice of enjoying nature at a slower pace.

Register on EventBrite




Thur	Jan 26	4:00 pm
Tue	Jan 31	9:30 am
Thur	Feb 2	4:00 pm
Tue	Feb 7	2:30 pm
Thur	Feb 16	9:30 am
Tue	Feb 21	4:00 pm
Thur	Feb 23	2:30 pm
Tue	Feb 28	9:30 am

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Wellness in the Winter Woods

Relax, reconnect, and renew with nature during a forest therapy walk. The Japanese name *Shinrin Roku* is literally translated as 'forest bathing'.

MSU Tollgate Farm has partnered with the **Novi Community Coalition** to offer these winter nature experiences. Come alone or bring friends or family!

[Click here](#) to learn more or register.

Starry, Starry Night

Join us for Starry Night on the Farm, a fun family overnight celebrating astronomy, agriculture, and the coming of summer. Hands-on astronomy learning, night sky viewing, solar system games, Oakland Astronomy Club, the star lab, walking model

of the solar system, animal chores, and a farm fresh breakfast. Make good memories with family and friends as you explore Tollgate Farm and all that it has to offer. June 9 - 10, 2023 Spaces fill quickly.

Register [Here](#).



Special Summer Camp Adventures with Tollgate Farm – Winged Wonders and Outdoor Adventure

For the slightly older camper, specialty camps offer in depth learning and adventures, field trips off site, and overnight learning experiences. Spaces fill quickly so be sure to register early.

air are included

Winged Wonders Camp is a special birding camp for ages 10-13 held in conjunction with the MSU Kellogg Biological Station and the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary in Hickory Corners, Michigan. This year a special stop on the way home at the MSU Corey Marsh Biological Preserve allows campers to visit with ornithologist Jen Owns. Explore farm and wild birds at Tollgate on Monday and Friday. Tuesday through Thursday, camp out under the stars, swim at Windmill Island, and bird with educators Misty Klotz, Ellen Koehler, and Eliot Nelson.

Register - Winged Wonders

Outdoor Adventure Camp takes survival camp to a whole new level for ages 12-14. Take survival camp to a whole new level and challenge yourself with exciting wilderness skill-building experiences. Test your limits in the forest and fields of Tollgate as you develop a survival mindset. Try your hand at fire-building, wilderness first aid, outdoor cooking, shelter-building, climbing, and team-building trust initiatives. Travel by bus for an outdoor adventure on the Huron River. Thursday overnight cookout and camp out on the farm are included.

Register - Outdoor Adventure Camp



Michigan State University Extension
Tollgate Farm and Education Center

FAMACHA WORKSHOP

JANUARY 28

10AM–NOON

Anyone caring for sheep and goats is familiar with the challenges of internal parasites. Barber Pole Worm in particular is cause of severe anemia in small ruminants. FAMACHA is a quick visual test that can be used to identify anemic animals for treatment. The FAMACHA certification workshop will teach you the procedure.

This workshop will be open to adults and youth interested in the health of small ruminants. Anyone 13 and older can be certified.

[Click Here to Register.](#)



4-H Animal Showmanship Projects

Tollgate Farm 4-H Club has kicked off our showmanship program for youth interested in an in-depth, hands-on learning experience focusing on goats, sheep, or ducks. The participants learn how to work with and care for the livestock and poultry on the farm. The ultimate goal of the project is to show their project animal at the Oakland County Fair in July 2023. While the focus is on fair, the showman learns about working toward a goal and all the planning, problem solving and determination that is the foundation of success at fair. We still have space available for breed-class lamb and duck showmen. Contact tollgatefarm4H@gmail.com for more information.



Looking for an interactive, educational, and fun farm visit?

MSU Tollgate Farm offers visits designed for diverse audiences and a variety of ages, including school and community groups. Aligned with education standards, our outdoor farm visits allow visitors to get to know life on the farm up close and personal. This spring, join us for Maple Sugaring, Embryology, Ecosystem Explorations, Spring into Farming, From Sheep to Sweater, and Plants and their Partners, among others. To learn more about MSU Tollgate Farm visits or schedule an in-person farm visit for your class or group.

Questions? Email koehle43@msu.edu

Sign up for your visit today! [Click Here.](#)



Host Your Next Event Here At Tollgate Farm!

Weddings, Birthday Parties,
Business Meetings, Conferences,
Retreats, Graduation Parties

**Click Here for More
Information.**

To view all of our up-coming events - [Click Here](#)

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